

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 CU-02 EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /078 W
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R 021220Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5226
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY KIGALI
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSYRLILONGWE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MPUTO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMCONSUL ZANZIBAR

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 2270

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, TZ, RW
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA VISITS TANZANIA

REF: KIGALI 627 (NOTAL)

1. RWANDAN PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA PAID STATE VISIT TO TANZANIA
MAY 25-28. VISIT RECEIVED CONSIDERABLE MEDIA ATTENTION.
WELCOMING HABYARIMANA, EDITORIAL IN GOVERNMENT-OWNED DAILY
NEWS CALLED FOR CLOSER COOPERATION. "THE PEOPLES OF RWANDA
AND TANZANIA HAVE ALWAYS BEEN ONE, IMPERIALIST BOUNDARIES
NOTWITHSTANDING." AT BANQUET IN HABYARIMANA'S HONOR, NYERERE
CONGRATULATED HIM FOR HIS "EFFORTS TO LIVE IN HARMONY AND WORK
IN COOPERATION WITH ALL RWANDA'S NEIGHBORS."

2. DISCUSSIONS CENTERED ON BILATERAL RELATION, WITH EMPHASIS
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ON JOINT CONSTRUCTION OF 200- MILE PAVED ROAD WHICH WILL GIVE
RWANDA ACCESS TO TANZANIA'S RAIL SYSTEM. MENTION WAS ALSO MADE
OF FOUR OTHER JOINT PROJECTS, POWER STATION AT RUSUMO FALLS,
KAGERA RIVER BASIN PROJECT, EXPANSION OF DAR ES SALAAM PORT
(TO ACCOMMODATE RWANDAN TRAFFIC), AND FEASIBILITY OF RAILWAY LINK
BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. PRESS ALSO REPORTED CONSULTATIONS ON
RWANDAN REQUEST FOR STUDY ON RE-SETTLEMENT OF RWANDANS IN

TANZANIA. THERE WERE NO REPORTS SIGNING OF AGREEMENTS (REFTEL).

3. IN JOINT COMMUNIQUE AT END OF VISIT, NYERERE AND HABYARIMANA EXPRESSED DETERMINATION TO INCREASE EXCHANGE OF VISITS, PARTICULARLY IN POLITICAL, COMMERCIAL, JUDICIAL AND CULTURAL FIELDS. NYERERE ACCEPTED INVITATION TO VISIT RWANDA.

4. COMMENT: HABYARIMANA VISIT ADVANCE TO NEW LEVEL TANZANIA'S DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONS WITH RWANDA SINCE HABYARIMANA'S COUP NEARLY FOUR YEARS AGO. TWO COUNTRIES HAVE SIGNED SEVERAL COMMERCIAL AND TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENTS SINCE 1973. TANZANIA-RWANDA COMMISSION, WHICH RECENTLY HELD FIRST MEETING, HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED TO PROMOTE COOPERATION ON SELECTED PROJECTS.

5. TANGOV APPEARS PREPARED TO MAKE CONSIDERABLE EFFORT TO BUILD SOLID RELATIONSHIP WITH RWANDA. IT SEES RWANDA'S TRANSPORTATION PROBLEMS AS PROVIDING AN OPPORTUNITY TO DRAW RWANDA MORE CLOSELY INTO ITS ORBIT, WITH THE HOPE THAT RWANDA WILL BE PERSUADED TO ADOPT A COMPATIBLE, STRONGLY IDEOLOGICAL SOCIALIST SYSTEM.
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